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(54) Title: CHIMERIC PROTEIN CONTAINING AN INTRAMOLECULAR CHAPERONE-LIKE SEQUENCE AND ITS APPLICATION TO INSULIN PRODUCTION

(57) **Abstract**

The present invention relates to a chimeric protein containing an intramolecular chaperone (IMC) like sequence linked to a target protein, preferably an insulin precursor. The present invention also relates to a process for obtaining a correctly folded insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein, comprising, *inter alia*, contacting an incorrectly folded chimeric protein containing an IMC like sequence linked to an insulin precursor with at least one chaotropic auxiliary agent. The present invention further relates to an assay for screening an amino acid sequence for the ability to improve folding of an insulin precursor using a chimeric protein containing an IMC like sequence linked to an insulin precursor.